

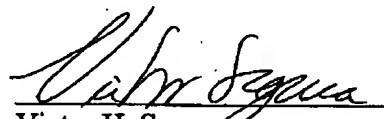
REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by US 4,543,648 (Hsu). Claims 1-6 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice. Independent claim 13 has been amended to further clarify the invention. No new matter is introduced by way of amendment.

Applicants submit that the combined direct averaging and lack of stacking features of the present invention are not found or suggested in the prior art. Applicants submit that claims 7-18 are in condition for allowance and passage to issuance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be advantageous in advancing the issuance of this application, a call to the undersigned at (281) 285-4562 is encouraged.

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Respectfully submitted,


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